GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COAL
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5497
ANSWERED ON:06.04.2017
Nationwide Safety Survey for Coal Mines
Mahendran Shri C.

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has called for a nationwide safety survey for the country's coal mines;
(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
(c) whether the average number of serious injuries per metric tonne of coal mined has increased/decreased and if so, the details thereof;
(d) whether the coal mining fatality figures in the country are better than those in other countries of the world; and
(e) if so, the details thereof

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL, POWER, NEW AND RENEWABLEE ENERGY AND MINES (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)

(a)&(b): Yes Madam. The Government has called for Safety Audit in all coal mines of Coal India Limited (CIL). The reason for conducting Safety Audit of mines is to assess whether all operations of the mine are being carried out safely as per provisions of statute and to identify deficiencies thereof, if any, in order to rectify the same for improving safety standard of the mines.

Accordingly, multi-disciplinary inter-company teams have been formed for conducting Safety Audit of all mines of CIL. Safety Audit has already been conducted in 83.5% of all mines of CIL as per the priority and Safety Audit of remaining mines will be completed shortly.

(c): As per information received from Directorate General of Mines Safety (DGMS), the average number of serious injuries per metric ton of coal has decreased. The details are shown below.

Year No. of Serious injuries* Output in metric tone Rate of serious injuries per metric ton
2012 548 617969 0.89
2013 468 589513 0.79
2014 394 650596 0.61
2015 297 650596 0.46
2016 267 650596 0.41
2017 21 650596 0.03
*Include injuries of fatal accident.
Data up to 28.02.2017. Data for the year 2015, 2016 & 2017 are provisional.

(d)&(e): The fatality figures of Coal India Ltd (CIL) is better than China, which is No.1. Coal producing Country in the World. However, compared to other countries like USA, Australia, there is scope to improve the safety in Indian coal mines.

Country / Company Parameters 2010 2011 2012 2013 2014 2015 Total
CIL Fatality 94 52 60 59 45 38 348
Production in Mte. 431 436 452 462 494 525 2800
Fatality Rate per MTe. 0.22 0.12 0.13 0.13 0.09 0.07 0.12
USA Fatality 48 20 20 20 16 11 135
Production in Mte. 932 1004 935 983 996 891 5741
Fatality Rate per MTe. 0.05 0.02 0.02 0.02 0.02 0.01 0.02
China Fatality 2433 1973 1384 1049 931 596 8366
Production in Mte. 3162 3471 3549 3561 3800 3680 21223
Fatality Rate per MTe. 0.77 0.57 0.39 0.29 0.25 0.16 0.39
Australia Fatality 1 1 2 0 4 1 9
Production in Mte. 353 414 421 459 496 518.4 2661.4
Fatality Rate per MTe. 0.003 0.002 0.005 0.000 0.008 0.002 0.003

Information Sources:
1. Mine Safety & Health Administration, USA
2. State Administration of Work Safety (SAWS), China.
3. Mining Accident database, Australia.
4. World Coal Association.

5. US-Energy Information Administration
6. Reuters.
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